Letters

Walton explains school opening procedures

Editor's Note: The following letter was addressed to parents of students in Appomattox County schools, with a copy submitted to the Times-Virginian for publication.

Dear Parents,

We are ready to begin another school year. School personnel look forward to working with you and approximately 2400 students who will be enrolled in the schools.

The school system continues to change to provide the most effective educational program for students. A number of curricular, instructional and organizational changes will be implemented during the 1984-85 session.

From kindergarten through grade 12, emphasis will be on "time on task." Students are in session for approximately 1000 hours each year, and it is a responsibility of the school to make wise use of the time available. This will require regular attendance of students, careful attention of students to the instruction provided and thorough planning by teachers to assure that students are taught the skills, concepts and understandings identified for each grade.

The curriculum will be challenging for all students. Beginning at the kindergarten level, students will be expected to achieve basic skills appropriate for the grade level and to advance toward mastery of "Standards of Learning" established by the Virginia Department of Education. Highly motivated and academic students will have opportunities to advance in special areas beyond the regular curriculum.

Acceptable conduct will be expected. The school board has adopted standards to benefit all students. Students shall:

1. Attend all classes regularly and not be absent unless prevented by sickness or accident or some other cause acceptable to school authorities.
2. Be punctual in going to each class.
3. Respect the rights and property of others.
4. Resolve conflicts peacefully.
5. Be honest and truthful.
6. Use appropriate and acceptable language.
7. Respect the personal and physical safety and welfare of others.
8. Respect other students' rights to learn.
9. Make appropriate use of school property, equipment and personal possessions.
10. Refrain from using alcohol and drugs on school grounds.
11. Function at a level of maturity appropriate for age and grades.
12. Demonstrate acceptable manners.
13. Avoid defiance, disrespect and rudeness toward teachers and others.

Acceptable student behavior is required on school buses for the safety and welfare of students, drivers, and the public. Conduct standards for students riding school buses have been adopted by the school board. Students shall:

1. Obey promptly and courteously the requests and directions of the bus driver and the safety patrol.
2. Be seated quickly and remain properly seated while on the bus. Do not sit on feet or books. Follow assignment of seats as deemed necessary by the driver.
3. Function in an orderly manner at all times for the safety and welfare of the entire group.
4. Follow all safety and operational regulations.
5. Refrain from using profane, abusive, or disruptive language and suggestive mannerisms.
6. Refrain from making distracting noise, motion, or other disorderly behavior.
7. Respect the property of others, including the bus. Make a personal effort to keep the bus clean.
8. Understand that riding a bus is a privilege which can be continued or discontinued based on the conduct of the individual. (Virginia Code 22.1-176 (1)).

School personnel look forward to the 1984-85 session with great expectations. The school system has a solid foundation on which to continue building. Students have had excellent learning experiences in the past. Students from this system have done well in the colleges and universities of this state and in other states. Students who concentrated on vocational skills have done well in the labor market. However, the system must do more for its students than it has in the past.

The school system will continue to meet the needs of its students because the Appomattox County School Board has a dedicated and competent staff of teachers, administrators, and auxiliary personnel to direct this system on its course toward excellence. Parents are cooperative, supportive, and interested in helping to provide quality educational experiences for their children. Students of this division are generally well disciplined, have a sincere desire to achieve, and exhibit respect for their peers and adults. With cooperative parents, competent school personnel and good students, human resources are in place for an excellent year in the Appomattox County School System.

You are invited to visit the schools, to attend school board meetings and to keep informed of the educational program. Your involvement and support will be beneficial to the youth of the county.

Sincerely,

Lloyd G. Walton
Division Superintendent

Mays say

'thank you'

Editor:

We would like to thank each and everyone who helped in any way with the ball tournaments given for Steven May in Phenix and Appomattox on August 10, 11, 12.

A very special thanks to all our relatives and friends and the Young Adult Married Couples Class of Providence Baptist Church. Their many long hours that they put in to make these tournaments a success, are greatly appreciated.

All of your many acts of kindness are greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

The May Family

Grover P. Beasley, III

Beasley promoted

The United States Air Force Captains Board which convened in January has selected 1st Lt. Grover P. Beasley III, (Tye) for promotion to captain, effective December 11, 1984.

Beasley has just recently departed Headquarters 12th Air Force in Austin, Texas to serve one year as the chief of transportation in Keflavik, Iceland.

"Iceland occupies a stragetic position in the North Atlantic and responsible for the air defense of our country. Defending Iceland is a key element of the United States committment to the North Atlantic Treaty organization and Beasley's performance as the Captain of Transportation has a direct impact our operational Air Force units are on the outcome of that mission," wrote Gene D., Faulk, Major, Commander Hq.Sq. USAF, in a letter to Beasley's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Grover P. Beasley, Jr. of Appomattox.

SAT prep class set

Central Virginia Community College will offer "SAT Preparation," a credit-free continuing education course, beginning Aug. 27.

The course concentrates on developing the student's reading comprehension, vocabulary, and math concepts necessary for success with the SAT examination. The student will also be trained to work analogies and sentence completions.

Practice exams will provide practical experience.

The course meets Monday and Tuesday evenings from 7 to 9, beginning Aug. 27-28. Enrollment is limited to 25 students. Tuition for the course is $35.

To register or to request more information, call CVCC, 239-0321, extension 210.

Fall orientation class scheduled at CVCC

Central Virginia Community College will offer a one-day orientation class on Friday, Aug. 24, for Fall Quarter students.

The one-time-only class, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., serves the scheduling needs of students and is required in the first quarter of most curricula at CVCC.

Tuition for GENL 100 is $18.50. Registration for the class may be completed Monday through Thursday up to the day of the class.

For more information, call CVCC (239-0321, ext. 246).

Hearings set for Agent Orange court settlement

Earlier this year a proposed settlement of $180 million plus interest was offered in the Agent Orange class action lawsuit pending before the U.S. District Court in the Eastern District of New York.

The presiding judge, as required by law, has scheduled hearings in various locations throughout the country to determine whether the proposed settlement as a whole is fair, reasonable and adequate.

In establishing these fairness hearings the judge has also directed that all members of the class who currently manifest disability or defect, which may be related to a veteran's exposure to toxic chemicals in or near Vietnam, must file a claim for compensation on or before October 26, 1984.

Those veterans, dependents and surviving dependents who currently manifest disability or defect must adhere to the court established deadline for filing a claim or otherwise they will be barred from compensation for current disabilities or defects unless they can provide a good reason of why they did not meet the court's deadline in filing their claim.

Those individuals who suffer disability or defect after October 26, 1984 must file a claim within 120 days of learning of the disability or defect.

Information concerning the current status of this litigation and assistance in filing the claim form may be obtained through the Virginia Division of War Veterans' Claims.

The services of the Division are free of charge. Local assistance can be rendered by Randolph A. Wood, Claims Agent, Virginia Division of War Veterans' Claims, 1118 Church Street, Lynchburg, Virginia 24504, on a Monday, Wednesday, or Friday, from 8:15 a.m. to 4:45 p.m.

Randolph A. Wood may also be seen in Appomattox, Virginia on the third Thursday in each month, located at the Courthouse, from 9:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

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The South 40

Fall is a good time to establish blueberries

By JAMES A. SMITH
Extension Agent

If you were one of those homeowners who planted new apples or peaches last fall or this spring, there are some specific training efforts that should be put in place the first year. Rather than using a lot of space to outline how, call or come by and ask for this information.

Fall is an excellent time to establish blueberries--get them ordered now for planting in late September-early October.

We have a listing of sources of rootstocks and blackberries. It doesn't take many for a family, if they are virus free.

There may be an opportunity to establish a small acreage for a pick-your-own operation.

Bacon named to SEC board of directors seat

John C. Anderson, executive vice president of Southside Electric Cooperative, announced last week that Mr. Frank W. Bacon has been appointed to fill the unexpired term on the board of directors, recently vacated by the resignation of Mr. Thomas C. Barnes.

Anderson stated that the bylaws of the Cooperative provide for appointment by the board to fill any unexpired term, however, in this case the board appointed a special committee to solicit recommendations to fulfill this unexpired term. The committee reconvened the District IV nominating committee and requested three recommendations for board consideration. The board held interviews during their regular July board meeting and Mr. Bacon was selected to fill this position.

Mr. Bacon lives on Route 1 near Kenbridge, Virginia. He is married to the former Trudy Hite and they have three children; two sons and one daughter. He is an instructor in business at the John Daniel Community College and a partner in a farming operation with his brother, Wellington Bacon, Jr. Mr. Bacon is a graduate of the University of Richmond in Accounting and holds a masters degree in finance from the Virginia Commonwealth University.

Mr. Bacon's father served on the S.E.C. board for approximately 30 years and was active at the time of his death.

J. Woodrow Martin, President of Southside Electric Cooperative, commented on the selection process as being a search for the most qualified person to serve on the board of directors as a representative of the Cooperative members. He stated that with Mr. Bacon's education and business experience he would bring to the board a great deal of expertise in the business operation of the Cooperative.

President Martin complimented the special committee for their decision to reconvene the nominating committee in District IV in order to receive input from the members in that district. The committee presented three qualified nominees for the board consideration. Mr. Martin commented that the decision to select Mr. Bacon was based on his education and business experties.

The Virginia Housing and Development Authority and State Office of Emergency and Energy Services has received funds for the Virginia Energy Loan Program.

Energy improvement loans are available at 0 to 9 percent interest. Loans of $500 up to $5000 are available to help make your home energy efficient and more comfortable. The money can be used for the following energy conservation measures:

- caulking and weatherstripping
- furnace efficiency modification (replacement burners, boilers or furnaces)
- electrical or mechanical furnace ignition systems
- insulation
- clock thermostats or timers
- storm windows or doors
- replacement heat pumps and air conditioners

To determine whether you can qualify, call toll free 1-800-572-8206.

There's another energy program that you should be aware of: The National Appropriate Technology Assistance Service (NATAS).

NATAS can answer questions about energy related appropriate technologies, a term that generally refers to technologies that use the sun, wind, and water resources and energy conservation methods and devices.

NATAS has two main roles: to help people investigate or implement appropriate technologies, and to help innovators solve problems they have commercializing energy saving products and services.

Their toll-free number is open from 10: a.m. - 7:00 p.m. and is 1-800-428-2525.

Several weeks ago I had the opportunity to visit Golden Oak Mushroom Farm operated by Elix Corporation in Buckingham County. This is the Shiitake mushroom that grows on oak logs. It is entirely different from the white button mushroom so familiar in local supermarkets.

The Shiitake mushroom retails for $20 or more per pound. The Buckingham location is likely the largest operation in this country. This mushroom is a native of the Orient. The day before I visited the farm they had shipped 10,000 pounds. They will need 1900 cords of oak wood for further development of their operation this winter.

We discussed the possibilities of expanding the operation into adjacent counties--growing on contract and marketing through their system. Hopefully in a few months we will have some budgets developed. If there is interest, we'll try to help you follow through.

Campers chosen

Holiday Lake 4-H Educational Center selected two new "Campers of the Week" for the week of Aug. 6-10, 1984. They are Sarah Birdsong, a 4-H'er from Albemarle County, and Nicole Hackney, a 4-H'er from Buvanna County.

These 4-H'ers received recognition due to their outstanding participation during the week of 4-H Camp.

Sarah also received the Certificate of Recognition in the Canoeing Class.

Sarah is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Spencer Birdsong.

Nicole is the niece of Bernice Shaw.

Sarah and Nicole will split a half-scholarship to return to camp next summer.

Sarah Birdsong, left, and Nicole Hackney, right, 4-H Campers of the Week

Chestnut Grove news notes

Visitors during the weekend of Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Cook were Wayne Cook of Richmond on Saturday and Mr. and Mrs. William L. Carter of Burkeville, Sunday.

The New Store Homemakers Club in conjunction with Curdsville Community Center has a picnic at Curdsville Monday night.

Sarah Morris spent last week with Mr. and Mrs. Faron Holland at Newport News. They brought her home and spent the weekend.

Mr. and Mrs. C. D. Proffitt, Jr., of Charlottesville spent Friday in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Vernard C. Proffitt.

Mrs. Billy Morris and Rodney and Mrs. Elsie Middleton, all of Richmond spent the weekend with Mrs. Ruby Morris.

Mr. and Mrs. Howard Johnson of Farmville were Saturday visitors of Mr. and Mrs. Bill Senger.

Mrs. Alice Senger and Mr. and Mrs. Dale Senger and family attended the Pope Reunion in Crewe Sunday.

Wednesday visitors of Mrs. Alice Senger were Mr. and Mrs. Walter Hamlett and son and Mrs. Martha Nash, all of Charlotte Courthouse.

Mr. and Mrs. Roger Morris and girls attended Homecoming at Bethel Methodist Church Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Johnny M. Harris, Aaron and Adam and Frank Chennault visited Lewis Morgan and Mrs. Alice Agee in Virginia Baptist Hospital in Lynchburg Sunday.

Mrs. Lois Thackett returned to her home in Melvin, Ky. Monday after spending last week with her sisters, Mrs. Alice Senger and Mrs. May Weakley in Appomattox.

Will Gilliam of Rustburg was a Monday visitor in the home of Mr. and Mrs. C. Henson Morris.

Recent visitors in the home of Mr. and Mrs. K. M. Beasley, Jr. were Mrs. Helene Harvey of Appomattox and Mrs. Katherine Carson of Spout Spring.

Mrs. K. M. Beasley, Jr. and Kathy spent Thursday with Mrs. Cynthia Wild at Stafford.

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